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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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21 May 1975

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THE JOINT STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, NSCIC WORKING GROUP

Subject: Intelligence Community Documents

1. (U) The suggestion was made at the 12 March 1975 meeting of the NSCIC Working Group that the DCI should establish a review cycle for those documents that set forth the objectives and priorities for the national foreign intelligence community. From the standpoint of the Joint Staff, the documents would be most useful if they were coordinated with related actions in the DOD planning, programming and budgeting system, which in turn are geared to submission of the President's annual budget to the Congress.
2. (C) The following proposals are made from that viewpoint.
 - a. To meet their stated purpose, the time-period of the documents should be extended and the periods related to each other.
 - (1) Perspectives, or some portion of it, to be a long-range (20-year) document as you proposed.
 - (2) United States Foreign Intelligence Priorities (DCID 1/2 attachment) to be a mid-range (8-year) document because of the development implications and their time requirements.
 - (3) Objectives to be the short-range (1-year) document.
 - b. The Key Intelligence Questions, because it is only an expansion of the Objectives, need not be viewed by the NSCICWG as the key objectives and priorities document. Rather the DCI can use the KIQ to focus the efforts of the intelligence community on agreed objectives.

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c. The schedule for submission of inputs to the DCI's documents could coincide with the 18-month development cycle of DOD documents. To include both planning and programming, the cycle, which, as stated earlier, is scheduled to coincide with the cycle ending with submission of the President's Budget, should be changed as follows:

(1) The Perspectives should be promulgated in March at the beginning of the planning process.

(2) The Objectives should be promulgated in June.

(3) DCID 1/2 should be promulgated annually in February at the beginning of the programming process.

d. The members of the NSCIC Working Group should review these documents when submitted by the DCI to the NSCIC prior to NSC and Presidential consideration. The Working Group should not participate in the development of those documents.



ROBERT P. HILTON
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